

number one concern of mothers was they would not have enough money at one point in their lives. Other surveys have shown that girls are less likely than boys to consider themselves "very knowledgeable or confident" about financial issues and money management. Economic and financial literacy is critical to helping girls plan for and achieve economic independence.

We thank you for your commitment to this issue and your understanding of the necessity of such a bill as H. Res. 273.

Sincerely,

JOYCE M. ROCHE,
President and CEO.

FIRST NATIONS OWEESTA CORPORATION,
Rapid City, SD, April 11, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: The Native Financial Education Coalition (NFEC) and First Nations Oweesta Corporation (Oweesta) strongly support your efforts to officially designate April as "Financial Literacy Month". As the national voice advocating for stronger personal financial management skills among Native peoples, the NFEC urges Congress to pass the bipartisan H. Res. 273 as a step toward raising awareness and spurring action toward better financial education in Native communities across the country.

Native communities across the board are lacking in financial education skills, which directly relates to the poverty and other social ills that often define Native peoples in the eyes of others. For example, Native communities are a hotbed for predatory lenders because Native people do not have the skills or awareness to understand the financing and credit process sufficiently, and a large percentage of our families are among the unbanked. We do not, however, have to let this situation define us and our involvement in Financial Literacy Month over the years is one way of taking control of our own lives and moving towards economic sovereignty.

The NFEC and Oweesta believe so strongly in this issue that this month, on April 26th, we will host the 3rd Annual Native Financial Education Policy Briefing in Washington, DC for lawmakers, staffers, Native leaders and others interested in Native financial education. In the past we have intentionally held the Briefing in April to commemorate Financial Literacy Month and see a real benefit to making it officially recognized as such. We commend you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to continuing our work together to make financial education a reality for all Native communities.

Sincerely,

ELSIE MEEKS,
Executive Director, First Nations Oweesta Corporation, Chairperson, Native Financial Education Coalition.

NORTH AMERICAN SECURITIES
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION, INC.,
Washington, DC, April 6, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HINOJOSA AND CONGRESSWOMAN BIGGERT: On behalf of NASAA

thank you for introducing H. Res. 273, which supports the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month. State securities regulators have a long tradition of protecting investors through education, and most have established an investor education department within their regulatory agency. Several of NASAA's Investor Education Section's current activities include: personal finance, investor and fraud prevention education on military installations; empowering senior citizens to spot, stop and avoid financial scams and several initiatives designed to teach youth the value of sound investing principles. Whether offering students the opportunity to understand the workings of Wall Street through the InvestEd stock market game, sponsoring an essay contest on how investing can create financial independence in South Dakota, or reaching out to teens in New Jersey through a Consumer University that teaches investing, regulators are connecting with youth across the country.

As part of the effort to educate our nation's youth, in April, state securities division staffs will join in celebrating "Financial Literacy Month" by visiting schools throughout their state to teach students about personal finance, the capital markets, investment choices and fraud.

Reaching out to our young citizens is just one component of the ongoing financial education effort undertaken by state securities regulators. We are dedicated to improving financial literacy for our constituents of all ages, recognizing that financial education has a direct impact on the economic health of our families, communities, states and this country overall. This year NASAA will be launching a new investor education podcast series as part of Financial Literacy Month. The series, "The Alert Investor," is a resource for the public to learn about investing wisely, avoiding fraud and how to exercise their rights as investors.

We commend you for your continued efforts to draw attention to the importance of financial literacy programs, and NASAA looks forward to participating in Financial Literacy Day on Capitol Hill. Please contact Daphne Smith, Tennessee Securities Commissioner and Chair of NASAA's Investor Education Section, or Deborah House in NASAA's corporate office if we may be of further assistance to you. We look forward to continuing our work with you and your offices on this particular issue.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH P. BORG,
NASAA President,
Director, Alabama Securities Commission.

APRIL 13, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: On behalf of Wells Fargo & Co., I am writing to express our strong support for H. Res. 273, a Resolution that raises awareness and support for financial literacy. Wells Fargo commends the leadership and determination that both of you have demonstrated as leaders of the financial literacy caucus.

Wells Fargo is committed to working with you in addressing the need for financial literacy for all Americans. Wells Fargo's financial literacy program, Hands on Banking® and El futuro en tus manos®, targets all age groups from elementary schools to adults. The program has been developed in collaboration with teachers and administrators across the country. The Department of Education in Texas, Utah and South Carolina has approved this program for school districts in their state. Wells Fargo has also partnered with various non-profit groups to put Hands on Banking and El futuro en tus manos into the hands of those who can benefit the most including: National Council of Economic Education, JumpStart Coalition, Navajo Nation in Arizona and the Mexican Consulates in Texas and California.

Wells Fargo believes the key to economic self-sufficiency is financial education. With this in mind, we are proud to express our support for H. Res 273 and look forward to continuing to team up with you and the House Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus to increase financial education throughout the United States.

Sincerely,

PAMELA ERWIN,
Senior Vice President,
Wells Fargo Foundation.

NATIONAL YOUTH
INVOLVEMENT BOARD,
Aurora, CO, April 16, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HINOJOSA AND REPRESENTATIVE BIGGERT: The National Youth Involvement Board is grateful for your co-sponsorship of H. Res. 273, and we share with you the values upheld during Financial Literacy Month. You have been steadfast in leading a surge in attention to Americans' personal financial strength and the financial education each citizen deserves. As an organization that represents and consists of citizens from all walks of life, we proudly share your devotion.

The National Youth Involvement Board (NYIB) is a volunteer network of not-for-profit credit unions, affiliated organizations, and other enthusiasts committed to providing young people the financial fundamentals they need for a lifetime of success. Whether through youth-specific services, classroom presentations, or collaborative efforts with organizations like Junior Achievement Worldwide and the National Endowment for Financial Education, NYIB members have long demonstrated creativity and cooperation toward our common purpose.

We at the National Youth Involvement Board understand that visible national recognition of the need for personal financial literacy is essential to a promising future for America. Your efforts—specifically H. Res. 273—have created exactly that. Thank you!

Sincerely,

JOHN FARIES,
Chairman,
National Youth Involvement Board.